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each connected at its one pipe end (7) to the air distributor module (2), and each being assigned to one combustion chamber of the internal combustion engine, and having at least one flange module (9) made of plastic in one piece, to which at least one of the intake manifold modules (6) is connected at its other pipe end (8) and which can be mounted on the internal combustion engine.

A marked-up version of amended claim 14 showing the changes made is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Please add new claims 27-29 as follows:

--27. An intake system with a modular design for an internal combustion engine, comprising:

- an air distributor module (2) made of plastic which can be connected to an air intake of the internal combustion engine,
- a plurality of one-piece intake manifold modules (6) made of plastic, each connected at its one pipe end (7) to the air distributor module (2), and each being assigned to one combustion chamber of the internal combustion engine,

- two flange modules (9) made of plastic in one piece, to which at least one of the intake manifold modules (6) is connected at its other pipe end (8) and which can be mounted on the internal combustion engine, wherein the flange modules (9) each are assigned to one cylinder block of the internal combustion engine, with the intake manifold modules (6) which are arranged side-by-side being connected to one flange module (9) and to the other flange module (9) in alternation.

Sub 28. An intake system according to Claim 27, characterized in that the flange module (9) extends along one side of the air distributor module (2) and in parallel with it, and the minimum of one intake manifold module (6) is connected to an area of the air distributor module (2) that faces away from this side.

29. An intake system according to Claim 27, characterized in that the intake manifold modules (6) are each connected to the air distributor module (2) at the top.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, claim 14 has been amended